Mrs. Nixon, on Her Own, Begins Campaign Swing

By NAN ROBERTSON

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CHICAGO, Sept. 18 — Mrs. Richard M. Nixon began her first and longest political swing on her own for the 1972 Presidential campaign today by declaring: "I'm taking the White House to the people."

Mrs. Nixon's six-day [illegible] embraces seven states, [illegible] of them—Illinois, California, [illegible] Texas — [illegible] in any [illegible] the Presidency.

Her first stop today was Chicago, a city that has not been carried by a Republican Presidential candidate since Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1956. [illegible] trip has been [illegible] "political" and the Committee for the Re-election of the President is picking up the [illegible].

The First Lady [illegible] her way through a [illegible] crowd [illegible] on [illegible] Michigan Boulevard [illegible] a Nixon campaign headquarters. It is located across [illegible] from the [illegible] Republican Chicago Tribune.

Surrounded by [illegible] shoving policemen, Secret Service agents and [illegible] cameramen, Mrs. Nixon listened as a band [illegible] "Hail to the Chief" in [illegible] the tune that [illegible] Presidents virtually [illegible].

Sees Volunteer, 9[illegible]

Then she toured the campaign headquarters, seven stories up, in a [illegible]. There she talked with a 9[illegible]-year-old volunteer, a wisp of a woman with a [illegible] of a voice, who danced at President William McKinley's second inaugural ball.

Downstairs again, the First Lady heard 12-year-old Teri Scriatle sing "Mr. Nixon in '72 is the man for me and you."

At a news conference in her hotel this afternoon, Mrs. Nixon became flustered when asked whether she thought the Watergate bugging investigation would "hurt the President's chances."

She paused and then said tensely, "No, I don't. The polls haven't indicated that. They know he has no part of it."

A questioner asked: "When you and your husband discuss the election and the campaign, does the Watergate situation concern him?"

Mrs. Nixon answered: "We don't discuss it, because all I know is what I read in the paper. That's the only knowledge I have, so there's no reason to discuss it. I think it's been blown completely out of proportion. I think the chairman has answered all the questions on it."

It was believed she meant Clark MacGregor, chairman of the Committee for the Re-election of the President.

[illegible] what you read?" she was asked.

"No, I'm not," she replied.

Mrs. Nixon was asked what she thought about the wife of the former Attorney General and [illegible] campaign [illegible] Mitchell [illegible]

[illegible] something like that and earn their way back into the country, that would be another thing. There might be something worked out like that."

She commented that she [illegible] with the recent [illegible] by her daughter, Mrs. David Eisenhower, about being willing to die for the Vietnam [illegible] would be willing to die for a freedom for [illegible] people who are now having aggression against them, with the idea of taking away their freedom and their country," she said.

Tonight Mrs. Nixon, Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie, a Republican, and Mrs. Ogilvie attended a tribute to 250 new Americans following naturalization ceremonies in the auditorium of the Prudential Building.

Tomorrow she flies West to Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, California, Texas and Oklahoma.

How often have
you seen Mrs. N.
described as
"flustered" and
"tense"?

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